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McKean County Miner.

HARRY L. BACKUS, Editor and Proprietor | OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY | TERMS: $1 25 Per Year

VOL. XL. | SMETHPORT, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1903. | NO. 11

OLEAN'S TERRIBLE DISASTER.

Fifteen are Known to be Dead and Forty-five More Reported Others May Die.

NAPHTHA CARS COLLIDE. CATCH FIRE AND EXPLODE

List of the Dead and Injured Set In of the Horror. The City Is Plunged in Grief.

[illegible] was not long before a vast crowd had assembled to witness the fire. The crowd lined up on railroad tracks on two sides of the burning train. They could find no other good points of vantage, as the ground on either side of these tracks was covered with water from the overflowing creek, swollen by recent rains. For two hours and a half the fire burned and as time wore on hundreds of people left for their homes tired of the sight, leaving only a comparatively few people within the danger distance. These were for the most part young men and boys.

"Shortly after 11 o'clock the explosion took place. It is supposed to have been a car that was burned and the safety valve or which had not been opened. The explosion was followed by another and a third, so close together that they seemed like one crash.

"As the great sheets of flame shot out in all directions many in the crowd were enveloped in flame that was positively furnace like in its intensity. Those who did not drop where they stood, instantly killed by the superheated atmosphere and the flames, ran this way and that screaming and madly attempting to extinguish their burning clothing. They resembled human torches. They did not run far, but in a frenzy of terror and agony or already burned to death they either dropped alongside the tracks or threw themselves into ditches to die.

"Many in the crowd were hurled through the air hundreds of feet by the force of the explosion. If they were not instantly killed and if it was not their dead bodies that were flying through the air, they must have died in their aerial flight, for the heat was so great that no human being could have gone through it and lived.

"Owing to the nature of things it was impossible to escape from the terrible fire zone. The railroad tracks are on an embankment and the only place in which the victims, who were not instantly killed, could go was into the water, which was running swiftly on either side of the tracks near the burning train.

"Had the explosion occurred two hours earlier, or even an hour, the death list would surely have mounted to the hundreds as the tracks had been a black mass of humanity.

"When the terrible calamity became known in the town every doctor and ambulance was called into service and this was followed by calling on owners of wagons, which were pressed into service as ambulances.

"Police were stationed at the Olean bridges which had to be crossed in order to approach the scene of the fire. This was done out of fear that other tank cars might explode, dealing out additional death and injury. When all further danger was considered past, the scene was approached and the work of searching for the dead commenced. The bodies were found easily enough, but they were unrecognizable to the searchers. The charred corpses were picked up and placed in wagons and carried to the city. The streets had by this time become crowded with an excited people. Every parent, brother or sister, who had a boy missing from home was in an almost frenzied state of mind for fear that a loved one might be among the dead.

"Woodward's undertaking establishment, in which most of the bodies lay, was the scene of the greatest excitement and sorrow. One after another [illegible] was identified by some [illegible] father or other relative and [illegible] was followed by an [illegible] of the most poignant grief.

An Olean Times reporter tells as follows of his visit to the scene of the disaster shortly after the explosion:

"It was a gruesome trip. A strong light was shining down the tracks instead of serving to illuminate it seemed to shut out the sight, and the first to [illegible] the reporter [illegible] of the [illegible] of the dead were [illegible] the [illegible] of two [illegible] lying in the middle of [illegible]. They were [illegible] by [illegible] from [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] by [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] by [illegible] from [illegible] of [illegible]. From [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

THE EASY WAY OUT

By Howard Fielding

Copyright, 1899, by Charles W. Hacke

MR. WILLARD KNIGHT had been a widower and alone so long that by the strange law which rules our mortal nature in such matters the brief and hallowed time when he had not been alone, the time of sweet companionship so dearly cherished in his heart, seemed to be coming nearer.

He occupied the upper floor of a small building which he had taken on a lease thirty years before and had subsequently bought because he had not cared to run the risk of having to move away. The rooms were comfortable enough and had been added to such extent as to be possessed at the time of his marriage. The remainder of the building was rented to an express company, the second to a dressmaker and half the third to a young married couple who were much in arrears. The other half of the third floor was vacant, and the fourth was Mr. Knight's.

[illegible] Mrs. Hadley, the third floor [illegible] very [illegible] people, as they [illegible] said to [illegible] who [illegible] by [illegible] a [illegible] pay [illegible] per [illegible] sev [illegible] Hadley [illegible] Knight [illegible] Hadley [illegible] Knight [illegible] Hadley [illegible] Knight

MODERN PHARMACY.

Pharmacy is a growing science and the druggist to-day who fills prescriptions must be up-to-date as well as his stock. Pure drugs, sciedtific service and reasonable prices are all combined when your prescription is filled here.

PERFUMES

we have a line that is the finest ever shown in town. Call and try a small bottle.

J. W. Voorhees,

Palace Pharmacy — Smethport, Pa.

Horse Blankets

and

Robes

HALF PRICE.

COME IN AND SEE

J. C. Hamlin.

McKean County Miner.

Entered at the postoffice at Smethport as second class mail matter.

Smethport, Thursday, March 12, 1903.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

—Bring or send your job printing to the MINER.

—Another big gas well has been struck near Roulette.

—Ben Hur flour is advertised by Shepard & Gallup this week

—J. M. Sloan of Bradford calls attention to his line of furniture and carpets in his ad this week.

—Charles L. Douglass of Bradford has offered to sell his mill dam site to that city for $35,000.

—The chances of the Buffalo police capturing the murderer of Burdick seem to grow less every day.

—The merits and demerits of the glassblowing machine are being discussed throughout the country.

—In a change of ad this week F. G. Lindholm & Co. call attention to the large display of carpets, oil cloths, etc., now on at this store.

—The Bayless Pulp and Paper company of Austin is being prosecuted for polluting the waters of Freeman run, on which the mill is located.

—The new ad of "Ike" Simons, the popular clothier and haberdasher of Bradford, tells you of the fashionable hats for spring and summer.

—Governor Pennypacker has selected as Arbor Days this year the first and third Fridays in April. These days should be generally observed.

—A broomless housewife has become a possibility. A Yankee has invented a machine which sweeps and dusts a room by suction from an air pump in the basement.

—Charles Baxton, aged 20 years, was killed by the cars while walking on the Pennsylvania tracks near Olean last Thursday night. His body was cut in two and otherwise horribly mangled.

—Shields Sawyer, who has been brakeman on the local branch of the B., B. & K. railroad for some time, has resigned and accepted a position with the B. & S. railroad with headquarters at Galeton.

—The Galeton Printing Co. has made application for a charter and will conduct the Galeton Leader and Dispatch. J. B. Coulston, N. S. Coulston and J. B Slone of Coudersport are identified with this company.

—Editor Cowles says: It is said that a man who squeezes a dollar never squeezes his wife. In looking over our subscription accounts we are led to believe that some awfully good women in this section are not getting the pressure that they deserve.

A Pittsburg dispatch dated March 7, says: Miss Ella Lyde, aged 23, a telephone operator, was suffocated this evening in a street car during the rush hours between 5 and 7 o'clock. She was forced to stand because of the crush and after riding seven or eight blocks, fainted. After being carried into a nearby drug store she expired within a few moments.

—In issuing a permit for a prize fight Saturday night, Burgess Dan M. Harper of Patton made the statement that the permit was for a prize fight and not for a ping pong game and that the principals must therefore fight. He appointed a committee of three reputable citizens to sell tickets and hold the cash until after the contest. They were instructed to return the spectators their money at the first intimation that the fight was a fake.

—Norman Argo, said to have been the original "Uncle Tom," is dead at Paint Lick, at the reputed age of 111 years, says a dispatch to the Tribune from Lancaster, Ky. Argo was born a slave and belonged to Gen. Samuel Kennedy, a wealthy planter of Gerrard county and a former member of the Kentucky legislature. Mrs. Stowe obtained most of the material for "Uncle Tom's Cabin" from the Kennedy plantation.

—The Coudersport Enterprise has again changed hands. Cartlidge & Mundy have sold their interest to M. T. Stokes of Oklahoma. Mr. Stokes is said to be a first class newspaper man and of what we see of his work in his first issue we have every reason to believe that such is the case. J. J. Mundy will continue in the capacity of associate editor and we believe the Enterprise will continue to be one of the best country papers in the state.

—Last Friday afternoon the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Morrison was taken with convulsions and the mother, thinking the child was choking, picked the little one up and started for a doctor. Dr. Ostrander was found near the postoffice and upon examination found that it was not choking. The child was taken into E. W. Strong's plumbing shop and afterward removed to Dr. McCoy's office. Drs. McCoy and Clark were also called in and after considerable work the child was revived and taken home. The incident created considerable excitement on the street.

Homeseekers' Excursions.

The Nickel Plate road will sell special round-trip homeseekers' excursion tickets first and third Tuesdays each month until April, 1903, at exceedingly low rates. Through service from New York City and intermediate points via D. L. & W. and W. S. roads. Three fast through trains each way daily. Inquire of local agents or write R. E. Payne, Genl. Agt., 201 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y., or C. C. Lowry, T. P. A., Holland, N. Y.

Subscribe for the MINER.

CHINESE FESTIVALS.

[illegible] Feast Lasts Three Days.

[illegible] Hog's Day.

The First day, Hog's day (Chou Yatu), is celebrated in honor of a hog that once drew a valuable manuscript out of a burning house. The fourth day, Sheep's day (Yang Yatu), is honored in memory of Pun Koun Yenza, a shepherd who clothed himself in leaves, grass and bark of trees, refusing to make use of any part of the sheep, either for food or clothing. The fifth day is Cow's day (Niou Yatu). This day is consecrated to a cow that suckled the captain who conveyed home the rich and bright [illegible] Chinese. The sixth day is Mule day (Ma Yatu). Horse day, and is set apart to call to mind the use[illegible]

Notable Celebrities.

[illegible] Cæsar [illegible] ing over [illegible] sees the [illegible] of the wife of a [illegible] Pompeii. It depicted a bull with [illegible] beat the [illegible] mounting the stairs with a sack of grain on his back. Upon the terrace where the bull stood was a cart and horse, and on the road leading to it several persons were shown. The picture was beautifully finished, and every object was very distinct, yet it was so small [illegible] that its size could be covered by a [illegible] could be cut and worn as a [illegible]

In [illegible] pretty [illegible] The [illegible] Thackeray [illegible] Dickens [illegible] Thackeray [illegible] Dickens [illegible] Thackeray [illegible] Dickens

McKean County Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

TERMS—$1.00 per year, or if paid strictly in advance $1.50 per year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Display advertisements published at the rate of $1.00 per column per insertion, payable monthly. One week's notice and no deviation from this rule. Extra charge for single insertion.

Reading notices, five cents per line for each insertion.

Legal advertisements, five cents per line for each insertion.

Cards, not exceeding one inch, $5.00 per annum.

Birth, marriage and death notices inserted free.

Executors' and administrators' notices, $3.00 each.

Address all communications to

HARRY L. BACKUS,
Editor and Prop'r.

Smethport, Thursday, March 12, 1903.

Republican Primaries.

The primaries of the Republican party of McKean county are hereby called to be held in the several election districts of the county at their respective voting places on Saturday, the 25th day of April, 1903 at the usual hours, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices, to-wit:

One person for the office of Judge of the 36th Judicial district of Pennsylvania.

One person for the office of Jury Commissioner.

Also for the purpose of electing one person as Judge of the County Republican committee from each election district.

Also for the purpose of electing three persons as delegates to the State Republican convention, which is to be held in the city of Harrisburg on Wednesday, the 27th day of May, 1903, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices, to-wit: Auditor General, for the office of Secretary of Internal Affairs, for the office of Judge of the Superior Court.

A ... Republican County Committee is hereby ... to meet in convention at the ... Smethport on Friday, ... 1903 at ... o'clock ... for the purpose of ... Delegate to the State Convention ... Harrisburg May 27th, 1903 ... Judge of the Superior Court.

By Order of the Committee.

WALTER CORNELIUS,
Secretary.

HON. J. A. HUNTER of Montrose, Susquehanna county, has been appointed by Governor Pennypacker to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, ... Judge Williams.

... Republican party in this county will ... as that will date for Jury Commissioner.

THE announcement of O. F. Schoonblom of Bradford as a candidate for the position of delegate to the Republican State convention to be held in Harrisburg May 27, appears in this issue. In speaking of him the Bradford Era says: Mr. Schoonblom is well known to the people of the county as a gentleman of excellent personal qualities, a very successful business man and one who is closely identified with the industrial and financial affairs of this city and vicinity. He is a Republican whose devotion to the principles of the party of progress never falters. This fact is appreciated and the Republicans of the county will support him enthusiastically as one of their representatives in the coming convention.

HON. T. E. BARNSDALL of this borough announces in this issue that he is a candidate for the position of delegate to the Republican state convention. Mr. Barnsdall was born and raised from childhood in this place and through the prominent part he has taken in politics he is well and favorably known to a large majority of the voters of this county. He is a lawyer by profession and is one of the most prominent and successful members of the McKean county bar. He was a member of the House of Representatives in 1898-9 and is well versed in State politics. His allegiance to the Republican party has never been questioned and his keen discernment and loyalty to the best interests of the party make him an ideal candidate for a State delegate from McKean county to the State convention.

Washington Letter.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1903.

The Fifty-seventh Congress has passed into history with a most creditable record on the statute book. Perhaps the most important of recent enactments are the anti-trust provisions of the the last session which, it is believed will prevent the destruction of competition by the great corporations and incidentally will facilitate the bringing to justice those companies which attempt to violate the law. Both the President and Attorney General Knox have expressed satisfaction with the progress made in this direction and the Republican leaders say that if it is demonstrated that further amendment of the statutes is found necessary such will be provided by the next Congress. A thoroughly adequate and comprehensive immigration law has been added to the statutes. It contains no new and radical features but coordinates and harmonizes those enacted in the past.

Secretary Loudge, speaking to your correspondent on the work of Congress, said after adjournment, "Two of the most important laws enacted this session, in my judgment, are the Army and the Militia reorganization bills. The creation of a general staff for the control of the army has long been advocated by Secretary Root and is everywhere acknowledged to be a step in the right direction. The Militia law will enable the authorities in the War Department to supervise, to some extent, the organization of the militia and unify its accoutrements, drill and tactics so that in the event of an emergency the Federal government would find in the state guard a far more effective organization than was the case at the beginning of the Spanish war. Time of course only can ... of the failure of the Philippine tariff bill and consider the ... Aldrich financial bill ... Democrats in Congress ... of the Aldrich bill ... how we first ... and some ... Democrats in Congress ... and of the Aldrich bill ... Democrats ... Democratic ... Democratic ... Democratic

Queen Quality Shoes. | F. G. Lindholm & Co | Standard Patterns

SPRING DISPLAY OF CARPETS, OILCLOTHS, &C.

All Carpets Made Free.

To-day we have on view fifty different patterns of Carpets in Axminsters, Velvets, Wiltons, Body Brussels, Best Tapestry, Pro-Brussels and Ingrains—every one bought before the advance two months ago and priced accordingly.

Axminster Carpets—Some very pretty patterns in the best colorings $1.35 a yard.

Velvet Carpets—One of the prettiest of the inexpensive numbers is a bold design in Persian colorings—red green and tan—fine for Library or Den $1.15 a yard.

Best Quality Body Brussels—All new designs $1.35 a yard.

Pro-Brussels Carpets—Known for desirability that cannot be excelled 75c a yard.

Ingrain Carpets—These are shown in various qualities and in a great many different patterns 35c to 75c a yard.

SPECIALS IN LACE CURTAINS.

Notingham Lace Curtains

49c pair - - Value 75c.
75c pair - - Value $1.00.
98c pair - - Value $1.50.

New Showing of Dress Goods and Trimmings.

F. G. Lindholm & Co.

MONARCH SHIRTS BANNER PATTERNS

FRY & HERZOG

DRY GOODS CARPETS MEN'S FURNISHINGS

Spring Wash Goods

A year ago it seemed the extreme limit of loveliness in wash fabrics had been reached. Not so this season's weaves and color combinations far outshine anything hitherto achieved.

We can't tell you about them on paper—come to the store. Here's a wealth of variety and we will enjoy showing you through.

Just a hint as to the different lines:

Madras, Ginghams, Chambrays, Percales, Dimities, Batistes, Silk Ginghams, Silk Chambrays, Woven Silk Novelties, Aberfoyl Chambrays, Grenadines, Silk Mulls, etc. In addition and endless variety of choice styles in single pattern lengths.

Men's Furnishings.

An important department in our store. Most everyone knows it. Do you? We keep pace with the correct styles and give the best possible values at all times. Now this week:

MONARCH SHIRTS.

Spring Styles.

The best in fit, best in design, best in laundry proof colors and best in durability. An honest dollar's worth of shirt. Why wear a common shirt when you can get a Monarch for $1.00

CLUETT SHIRTS.

Made in the same factory from finer materials $1.00

600 PAIRS SOCKS.

"Shawknit Seconds," worth 25c pair, special at 3 pairs for 50c.

FRY & HERZOG.

Now Heat Your Home Comfortably with a Jewett Reflex Heater.

Even if gas costs one dollar per unit, it would be cheaper for you to use a REFLEX than to go without heating. This is a positive fact, and if REFLEX the HEATER WARE DEALER, will prove it to you and refund your money. It beats using coal at any price.

All people have been more or less worried on the fuel subject. The JEWETT REFLEX will positively settle your worry in the most satisfactory and economical way. It will pay you to buy a REFLEX because of its economy and HEATING POWER. Remember, your money back if you are not convinced.

JEWEL STOVES AND RANGES

JEWEL STOVES AND RANGES

SYRUP CANS, SAP BUCKETS & SPOUTS.

A FULL LINE OF TINWARE FROM THE CHEAPEST TO THE BEST

ANTI-RUST WARE.

STOVES.

LUMBER, HARDWARE.

BLACKSMITH SUPPLIES

HOLMES & GILFILLAN.

REDFIELD'S HARDWARE.

McKean County Miner

Entered at the postoffice at Smethport as second class matter.

Smethport, Thursday, March 12, 1903.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

—Try A. Herzog's new window curtain poles.

—Is that your boy suspected of having killed Miller?

—Irene Jeavons at the Smethport Lyceum next week.

—The Irene Jeavons company will be at the Smethport Lyceum all next week.

—The Pennsylvania Railroad company has increased its capital stock from $250,000,000 to $200,000,000.

—Seats for the Irene Jeavons company will be on sale at Wellsburg store on Friday. Prices 15, 25 and 35 cents.

—Thomas Hadley, a glass worker, fell and broke some of his ribs at Mt. Jewett on Wednesday. He was taken to the County Home on Tuesday.

—St. Luke's Auxiliary will hold a cooked food sale at the parish house from three to five-thirty o'clock Saturday afternoon, March 14. All are invited.

—Miss Clare Wiles, a graduate of Warner's Business College, has accepted a good position as bookkeeper and typewriter for C. A. Burdick, insurance agent.

—The man recently arrested at Snow Shoe, N. Y., supposed to be Myers, the murderer of Mrs. Payne, proved to be other than the man wanted and was released.

—Fred E. Fisher, who has been the ticket agent for the Pennsylvania and W. N. Y. & P. railroads at Olean for 14 years, died at that place on Friday last, aged 35 years.

—Wanted, One hundred evangelists at the Methodist church. Details next Sunday at the morning service. "Does God's Mercy Endure Forever?" is the subject for the evening.

—In our report of the council meeting last week we did not mention the fact that J. F. Rooney was one of the newly elected members. This was purely an oversight on our part.

—The firm of Palmer & Dodge has been dissolved by mutual consent, John O. Dodge retiring. A. T. Palmer will continue to conduct the livery business and Mr. Dodge will manage his farm and run the Pleasant Valley Dairy milk route in this borough.

—O. W. Dickerson of Clermont has purchased the blacksmith shop, business and good will of Maurice Keefer of this place and will conduct the same in the future. Mr. Dickerson is a first class man in this line and no doubt will receive a good share of the patronage. Read his ad in another column.

—An East Smethport correspondent sends the following. William Rauch and family have moved into the Card house; Fred Nourse has moved from Reilly hollow into the Henry Green house, and Norman Stanton has moved into the house vacated by Mr. Nourse.

—At St. Luke's church on next Sunday the services will be at 8 and 10:20 a. m. and at 7:30 p. m. The subjects for the day will be, "Treatment of Peculiar Temptations" and "The Race and the Prize." Anthems, "O Saviour of the World," Goss, and Grieg's "O God Our Help."

—In an entire year only one person was killed on the railways of Great Britain. In three months 845 persons have been killed and 11,162 injured on American lines. However, it must be remembered that we have many more miles of railroad and the trains make much faster time.

—Deepening interest is manifesting itself in the Methodist church in renewed activity, making the subject for meditation and services next week, "What Am I Willing to Do?" peculiarly fitting. Cottage prayer meetings will be held every night. Announcement of places will be made on Sunday.

—The Irene Jeavons company will open their week's engagement at the Smethport Lyceum on Monday night, playing "A Christian Heroine." The company has been playing in nearby towns for [illegible] and all of the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

FARRAGUT'S DASH AT PORT HUDSON

A Fortieth Anniversary War Story

March 14, 1863.

[Copyright, 1903, by G. L. Kilmer.]

MARCH 14, 1863, Farragut made a desperate attempt to dash past the Confederate land batteries at Port Hudson, on the Mississippi river below Vicksburg. Out of nine ships which started to run the gantlet of fire two got through, one was destroyed, four retreated badly battered and two came off uncaptured. The stretch of river between Port Hudson and Vicksburg was used by the Confederates as a waterway tapping the rich country up the Red river. The Confederate garrison at Vicksburg, which Grant was aiming to subjugate, drew its supplies from the region west of the Mississippi by steamers plying the Red river.

In February the Federal steam ram Queen of the West, under the gallant but [illegible] Charles Rivers Ellet, was [illegible] to get an [illegible] through the Confederate batteries at Port Hudson. The Federal vessel followed the Queen in the dusk of afternoon and was [illegible] and destroyed. The next night the Queen and Ellet's flagship Switzerland followed. The Queen got by, but the Switzerland, aground on [illegible], was [illegible] Confederate batteries. Ellet and [illegible] Federals left the Queen in the darkness of morning and were [illegible] and destroyed. The next night the Queen and

COON FLAT'S FINANCIER

By Frank H. Sweet

Copyright, 1905, by the S. S. McClure Company

"Heered anything 'bout wheat today?" grumbled old Jake as his hired man entered. "Goin' down, of course?"

"No; goin' up," Bill answered promptly. "A man hollered to me from the edge of the hill this mornin' an' said 'twas 70."

"Seventy!" Jake grabbed his crutches and rose totteringly to his feet, but sank back with a snarl of mingled pain and anger. "Seventy cents, an' I've got ninety bushels! Durn the old back! Time I'm over the rheumatics it'll be down to 50, like 'twas last year, an' there'll be a clean loss of $18. Blame it all!"

"That's Bill, pap," supplemented his daughter. "He's mighty strong an' willin'."

The face darkened, then grew lighter. Evidently the idea, at first scouted, was being tolerated. That might the hired man had moved forward.

"I dunno," doubtfully.

Bill saw his opportunity and rose to it like a man.

"I'll take it down all right," he said unctuously. "I've sold wheat to Staun

ton before. I'll make him a good bargain, so I look, an' you'll get your money. An' what I want ye to do is all to stay here."

Bill's head was whirling, but there was Laurel looking at him confidently.

"All right," he said as steadily as he could. "I'll hitch the mules and drive half on the long waggin, an' I'll hurry. I'm smart's lightnin' an' like Brown's old horse an' drive 'em to Ben Coyner's day waggin. That'll take the load half. Hyd's boy Sam can drive behind me, so I can keep an eye on to him. Oh, yes, we'll get on fust rate."

Jake nodded approvingly. It was a good plan.

After the wheat was loaded the next morning Bill contrived to draw Laurel into the kitchen for a moment.

"Say, Laurel," he began eagerly. "I—I say, would ye mind me gittin' a ring to Staunton, a gold ring, for ye an' me?"

She looked at him quickly, understandingly, her face flushing.

"Why, no, I wouldn't mind, Bill," she said simply. "I'll be real glad."

"An' an' would ye mind speakin' to yer pap 'bout it while I'm gone, Laurel? It might be a good time now I'm a-totin' his wheat."

"N-no; I don't mind."

She watched him from the doorway until the heavy wagons rumbled out of sight; then she went in to her father.

"Pap," she announced abruptly, "Bill's ast me to marry him."

"An' you?"

"I've said yes," composedly.

Jake controlled himself with a mighty effort. With Laurel he must be diplomatic.

"Well, mebbe ye know best," he grimaced affably, "but ye know how it is with Bill. He'll have to wait till he's able to keep ye. I don't reckon he's saved enough to buy a ruhl yet."

But Laurel smiled contentedly. People were easily mistaken, she thought. Had Bill not promised her a gold ring out of the plenitude of his riches? So she said softly, "We'll wait till ye say yerself that Bill's able to keep me."

Curiously enough, at that very moment Bill was wondering dismally how he would be able to contrive the purchase of a gold ring. Twenty-five cents represented the accumulation of his twenty-five years.

They expected him back by the end of the third day. It was the afternoon of the sixth when he returned. As he dismissed young Sam and attended to his mules there was a look of beatific joy upon his face, which remained there until he opened the cabin door and saw the expectant face of Jake. Then he whitened and staggered to the nearest chair.

"Ye pore boy!" cried Laurel tenderly. "Yer plumb beat out."

"Did ye git the 70 cents?" demanded Jake eagerly.

Bill gasped and tried to collect his thoughts. What was he here for? It was about the wheat, wasn't it? He had almost forgotten that unimportant matter after the gold ring took possession of his mind. He remembered the wheat had been taken to the storeroom of a big gambling mill and that he had told a clerk he would be back later and attend to its sale. Then he had hurried away in search of a job of hauling with the mules and had carted sand two days for $6 and had bought the gold ring. And he had given Sam the 25 cents to pay his fare to a cousin's to get him out of the way for the two days. That was all, only he had forgotten to go back and sell the wheat.

"Did ye git the 70 cents?" demanded Jake for the second time.

Bill felt that it was a crisis with him, and he drew a long, hard breath.

"Ye see, it's this a way," he said. "Gains are for risin', an' I ain't sold yet. But I'll go down." He was about to say "to once," but restrained himself, for that might betray him. He added instead, "But I'll go down in a few days an' see how the risin' is comin' on."

Under ordinary circumstances the invalid would not have controlled his astonishment and wrath, but this was an extraordinary opportunity, and Jake was nothing if not diplomatic, so he forced himself into a semblance of composure.

"Waal, it's yer lookout, Bill," he said significantly. "I ordered ye to sell, an' of course I'll hold ye responsible for all fallin's from the 70 cents."

It was a very miserable Bill who went out to attend to the [illegible] the duration of [illegible] Laurel, [illegible] will be a [illegible]

Variegated and [illegible]

[illegible] leaves [illegible] the [illegible] ing forth the background of [illegible] pansy and the [illegible] yard with the [illegible] one [illegible] Yet [illegible] and [illegible] are [illegible] the [illegible] boy with [illegible] which [illegible] leaves [illegible] the only [illegible] child, or if only [illegible] is not wholly [illegible] to the [illegible] will [illegible] shall store the spirit of [illegible] boy born in a mean house on a low street or over a shop and not in the heart of a boy born in a palace on a noble square. As yet no one can say why this should be, though we can show that it is so, and we venture with much confidence, giving a theory which will not perhaps hold halfway, if so far as that.—W. D. Howells in Harper's Magazine.

How to Tell an Oyster's Age.

The oyster at the commencement of its career is so small that 2,000,000 would only occupy a square inch. In six months each individual oyster is large enough to cover a silver half dollar. The oyster is its own architect, and the shell grows as the fish inside grows, being never too small.

It also bears its age upon its back, and it is as easy to tell the age of an oyster by looking at its shell as it is that of horses by looking at their teeth.

Every one who has handled an oyster shell must have noticed the successive layers overlapping each other. These are technically named shots, and each one marks a year's growth, so that by counting them the age of the oyster can be determined. Up to the time of its maturity—that is, when four years of age—the shots are regular and successive, but after that time they become irregular and are piled one upon another, so that the shell becomes bulky and thick-set.

Fossil oysters have been seen of which each shell was nine inches thick, whence they may be guessed to be more than 900 years old.

When Women Were Captured.

In Deuteronomy xx, 14, women are classed as spoils, and in Deuteronomy xxi, 11, 14, are the regulations to be observed in taking to wife a woman captured in war. In the song of praise attributed to Deborah and Barak when exulting over the defeat and death of Sisera we find (Judges v, 30): "Have they not speed? Have they not divided the prey—to every man a damsel or two?"

These are all cases of capture de facto, and they show conclusively that the Israelites captured women and took them to wife. That it was also a common practice among the neighboring nations we infer from I. Samuel xxx, 5, where David's two wives are carried off by a raiding party of Amalekites.

AS IT IS WRITTEN.

A List of the Greatest Ten Men the World Has Known.

[illegible] men the world has known? Dr. J. McKeen Cattell gives Sophocles, Shakespeare, Molière (col), Voltaire, Baron, Aristotle, Goethe, Julius Cæsar, Luther and Plato. "The method I followed," says the author, "to discover the 1,000 men who are pre-eminent was this: I took six biographical dictionaries or encyclopedias—two English, two French, one German and one American—and found the 2,000 men in each who were allowed the longest articles. In this way some 6,000 men were found. I then selected the men who appeared in the lists of at least three of the dictionaries and from these selected the thousand who were allowed the greatest average space. This was obtained not only the thousand men esteemed the most eminent, but also the order in which they stand. According to this list, the ten most eminent are given above. It is curious that these ten pre-eminent men are so widely separated in race and age. Two Greeks, two Frenchmen, two Germans, two Englishmen, one Italian and one Arab and two in the fifth century before Christ, one in the sixth, one in the fourth, two in the sixteenth and three in the eighteenth centuries. The two names left on the list are Celtic Scotchmen, Macpherson, Chieftain, Bard [illegible], Charles I. of Naples, [illegible] and Barbeyrac, jurist [illegible] Philadelphia Record.

Shakespeare's Burdens.

[illegible] Shakespeare [illegible] Earl of Derby [illegible] good [illegible] Lord [illegible] Lord [illegible] Lord

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AS THROUGH A GLASS - - -

By LILIAN C. PALCHAL

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"Will you look at that?"

Miss Davidson swung around on her revolving chair and leaned over toward "Katharine Decatur, Editor Woman's Every," known in private life as Jack Higgins.

He took his feet down from his desk and his cigarette from his mouth, which simultaneously bore their impelling force to the good citizenship of self-reproach, even if he had not been his cousin and private pal and room-mate.

New York, [illegible]

Dear Miss Howard: [illegible] which I've [illegible] with much [illegible] Shall I [illegible] the [illegible] Yours [illegible]

"Thanks, Jakeman," Jack read aloud, chuckling quite pitilessly over the [illegible] "Now, Miss Davidson, if you'll open your mouth very wide I'll see what I can do for you."

Jack's eyes twinkled [illegible] this persistent suitor. "Good, I'll help him out," was the mental [illegible] of his pursuit. He waved his head toward the desk by the window where sat a very pretty school teacher with a very pronounced frown on.

"My cousin, Miss Davidson, solicits [illegible] Mr. Higgins," he said.

And that was the way Lute introduced [illegible]

The way that [illegible] fleshy specimen of them might be guessed from a pretty room situated on the second floor of the Elvedia as she swung out of the North River one hot day last summer.

The floor and first [illegible] with a scurry of [illegible] shoe-leather sixty pairs of feet from [illegible] corner. With [illegible] she [illegible] [illegible] on account of the [illegible] while the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]